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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Lawrence J. Ronk et al.
Serial No: 09/896,503
Filed: 6/29/2001
Art Unit: 2625
Examiner: K. Patel
Docket No.: TI-30890
Conf. No.: 9240
Customer No.: 23494

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FACSIMILE COVER SHEET

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FACSIMILE COVER SHEET (1 SHEET)	<input type="checkbox"/> AMENDMENT
<input type="checkbox"/> NEW APPLICATION	<input type="checkbox"/> EOT
<input type="checkbox"/> DECLARATION	<input type="checkbox"/> NOTICE OF APPEAL
<input type="checkbox"/> ASSIGNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> APPEAL <u>BRIEF</u> (4 Pages)
<input type="checkbox"/> FORMAL DRAWINGS	<input type="checkbox"/> ISSUE FEE
<input type="checkbox"/> INFORMAL DRAWINGS	<input type="checkbox"/> REPLY BRIEF (IN TRIPLICATE)
<input type="checkbox"/> CONTINUATION APP'N	
<input type="checkbox"/> DIVISIONAL APP'N	
NAME OF INVENTOR(S): Lawrence J. Ronk et al.	
TITLE OF INVENTION: Image Object Ranking	
TI FILE NO.: TI-30890	DEPOSIT ACCT. NO.: 20-0668
FAXED: 02/09/2006 DUE: 02/09/2006 ATTY/SECY: CHH/gs	
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Texas Instruments Incorporated
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

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FEB 09 2006

Appl.No.: 09/896,503
Appellant: Ronk et al
Filed: June 29, 2001
TC/AU: 2625
Examiner: Patel

Confirmation No.: 9240

Docket: TI-30890
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APPELLANTS' BRIEF

Commissioner for Patents
P.O.Box 1450
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The attached sheets contain the Rule 41.37 items of appellants' brief. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee for filing a brief in support of the appeal plus any other necessary fees to the deposit account of Texas Instruments Incorporated, account No. 20-0668.

Respectfully submitted,



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Rule 41.37(c)(1)(i) Real party of interest

Texas Instruments Incorporated owns the application.

Rule 41.37(c)(1)(ii) Related appeals and interferences

There are no related dispositive appeals or interferences.

Rule 41.37(c)(1)(iii) Status of claims

Claims 1-7 are pending in the application with claims 5-7 allowed and claims 1-4 finally rejected. This appeal involves the finally rejected claims.

Rule 41.37(c)(1)(iv) Status of amendments

There is no amendment after final rejection.

Rule 41.37(c)(1)(v) Summary of claimed subject matter

The invention provides a method of generating feature data of objects traversing the field of view of an image sensor such as a surveillance camera; the feature data can be used in querying the image database consisting of the image sensor output to find objects. Application Fig.8 and pages 17-19 describe the claim 1 feature data generation as including both (1) the sequence of grid blocks traversed by a moving object plus (2) some other features, such as color histogram (claim 4), size, shape, etc.

Rule 41.37(c)(1)(vi) Grounds of rejection to be reviewed on appeal

The grounds of rejection to be reviewed on appeal are:

- (1) Claims 1-4 were rejected as anticipated by the Saeki reference.

Rule 41.37(c)(1)(vii) Arguments

- (1) Claims 1-4 were rejected as anticipated by Saeki; the Examiner pointed to Figure 2 and column 2, lines 9-11 plus Figure 9 and column 7, lines 54-63 for the extraction of a grid block sequence required by claim 1.

Appellants reply that the blocks in Saeki are for defining motion vectors between two key frames and use the usual block matching for motion vectors, not a sequence of grid blocks corresponding to the object motion. In particular, cited Saeki column 2, lines 9-11 represents a moving object with a first key frame and a second key frame plus a region motion vector between the two key frames. Likewise, cited column 7, lines 54-63 just provides some detail about the regions in the key frames. Further, Saeki Figure 10 shows the motion vectors and region motion vector between the two key frames. These motion vectors between two key frames do not suggest the sequence of grid blocks for object motion description of claim 1. Consequently, Saeki does not suggest claim 1 and its dependent claims 2-4.

Rule 41.37(c)(1)(viii) Claims appendix

1. A method of video object feature data generation, comprising:

- (a) extracting a first set of features from a moving object detected in a sequence of images;
- (b) extracting a sequence of grid blocks corresponding to motion of said object in said sequence of images; and
- (c) storing said first set of features and said sequence of grid blocks.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein:

- (a) said extracting of step (a) of claim 1 includes extracting features in every image in said sequence containing said object.

3. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

- (a) for each of said grid blocks of step (b) of claim 1, extracting features and associating said grid-block extracted features with said grid block sequence.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein:

- (a) said first set of extracted features of step (a) of claim 1 includes a color histogram.

Rule 41.37(c)(1)(ix) Evidence appendix

n/a

Rule 41.37(c)(1)(x) Related proceedings appendix

n/a